

Message Text

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ACTION SS-30

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O 060945Z DEC 73

FM AMEMBASSY TOKYO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 8603

S E C R E T TOKYO 15827

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: ENRG, PFOR, JA, XF

SUBJ: MEETING WITH GOJ ME SPECIAL ENVOY MIKI

REF: TOKYO 15826

1. DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER TAKEO MIKI, WHO HAS BEEN NAMED SPECIAL ENVOY TO VISIT VARIOUS ME CAPITALS FROM DECEMBER 10, REQUESTED APPOINTMENT TO CALL DEC 6 AT EMBASSY. DECLINING CHARGE'S OFFER TO CALL ON HIM, MIKI PAID 40-MINUTE CALL AT EMBASSY.

2. MIKI INITIATED THE CONVERSATION BY NOTING THAT HE WOULD BE DEPARTING TOKYO ON HIS ME MISSION MONDAY DECEMBER 10. HE DESCRIBED THE MAIN PURPOSE OF HIS MISSION IN TERMS OF HIS CONVERSATION WITH SECRETARY KISSINGER IN TOKYO NOV. 15, WHEN MIKI SAID HE URGED THE SECRETARY TO CONTINUE HIS EFFORTS TO RESTORE PEACE TO THE ME. MIKI SAID HE WAS IMPRESSED BY THE ENERGY AND CONFIDENCE WITH WHICH SECRETARY ASSURED HIM HE WOULD DO SO. THEREFORE, MIKI SAID THERE IS NO OTHER REALISTIC COURSE BUT TO HOPE THAT THE SECRETARY SUCCEEDS IN HIS EFFORTS. MIKI SAID JAPAN RECOGNIZES THAT THERE ARE TWO PROBLEMS INVOLVED, WORLD PEACE AND OIL, BUT WITHOUT A PEACEFUL SETTLEMENT IN THE ME THERE CAN BE NO SOLUTION TO EITHER. EVEN THOUGH THERE IS NO MAJOR ROLE FOR JAPAN TO PLAY, JAPAN NEVERTHELESS WISHES TO DO WHATEVER LITTLE IT CAN TO BRING ABOUT PEACE. MIKI POINTED OUT THE

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DISTANT RELATIONS WHICH EXIST BETWEEN JAPAN AND THE ME NATIONS, AND HE SAID THAT THE QUESTION IS HOW TO FURTHER MUTUAL UNDERSTANDING AND COOPERATION. FOR THIS

REASON HE WISHES TO EXCHANGE VIEWS WITH THE VARIOUS ARAB NATIONS, TRANSMITTING TO THEM IN THE PROCESS AN EXPLANATION OF THE FOREIGN POLICY OF THE TANAKA GOVT. WHILE HE WAS CERTAIN THAT THE JAPANESE EMBASSY IN WASHINGTON HAD ALREADY INFORMED THE USG OF THE PURPOSE OF HIS VISIT TO THE ME, MIKI SAID HE WISHED TO MAKE SURE THAT THESE VIEWS ARE TRANSMITTED. MIKI SAID THAT WHEN PM TANAKA PRESENTED A STRONG REQUEST THAT HE ACCEPT THE MISSION TO THE ME, MIKI SAID HIS RESPONSE WAS THAT HE WOULD NOT GO TO ASK FOR OIL; HE WOULD ONLY GO IF HE COULD CONTRIBUTE TO THE ADVANCEMENT OF THE PEACE NEGOTIATIONS SOUGHT BY SECRETARY KISSINGER. HE STRESSED HIS DESIRE THAT JAPAN COOPERATE IN BRINGING ABOUT THE FUNDAMENTAL SETTLEMENT, WHICH ALONE WOULD PROVIDE OIL, AND FOR WHICH SECRETARY KISSINGER AND THE ENTIRE USG ARE WORKING. THE GOJ HOLDS EXPECTATIONS OF THE USG EFFORTS, BUT THAT ALONE IS INSUFFICIENT FOR THE GOJ TO DISCHARGE ITS RESPONSIBILITIES. MIKI AGREED THAT THE U.S. IS THE ONLY NATION WHICH CAN EXERT PRESSURE ON BOTH SIDES IN THE CONFLICT, AND HE COMMENTED THAT THE ARABS ALSO RECOGNIZE THIS. HE EXPRESSED THE HOPE THAT NEGOTIATIONS LEADING TO LONG-LASTING PEACE COULD BE ACHIEVED; THE SETTLEMENT MUST BE FAIR, HE SAID, BUT IT SHOULD NOT BE "EXTREME".

3. CHARGE RESPONDED BY MAKING THE FOLLOWING MAIN POINTS:

A. THE NEGOTIATIONS WE SEEK ARE ESSENTIAL TO A LASTING SETTLEMENT.

B. FOR THE NEGOTIATIONS TO SUCCEED, BOTH SIDES MUST APPROACH THEM IN A SPIRIT OF REALISM AND READINESS TO COMPROMISE.

C. WE HOPE NOTHING WILL HAPPEN TO INTERFERE WITH SECRETARY'S EFFORTS TO BRING ABOUT DIRECT NEGOTIATIONS BETWEEN THE TWO SIDES AND ACHIEVE A REALISTIC, LASTING SETTLEMENT.

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D. IN THIS CONNECTION, IT IS IMPORTANT TO AVOID ACTIONS WHICH ONLY SERVE TO HARDEN THE POSITION OF ONE SIDE OR THE OTHER.

E. WE DESIRE TO KEEP IN CLOSE TOUCH WITH JAPAN. SHOESMITH

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